

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

FILED
RICHARD W. MARBLEY
CLERK OF COURT

2021 JUL 15 PM 1:51

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON,

Defendant.

CASE NO.

2:21-cr-131

JUDGE MARBLEY

INDICTMENT

18 U.S.C. § 1344

18 U.S.C. § 664

18 U.S.C. § 641

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

At all times material to this Indictment:

Background

1. Betty Jean Ward (“Ward”) died on October 17, 2015 at age 82. On the death certificate, Ward’s granddaughter LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON is listed as the informant.
2. At the time of her death, Ward was collecting a monthly pension from U.S. Steel. This should have ended when Ward died, but the pension was not notified of her death. As a result, the pension continued to deposit benefits intended for Ward into her account at Northwest Bank, totaling \$23,425.16 after Ward’s death.
3. Ward’s Northwest Bank account was an individual account with no co-signer.
4. Northwest Bank was a financial institution with deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

COUNTS 1 - 51
(Bank fraud)

5. Paragraphs 1 through 4 are incorporated herein.

The Scheme to Defraud

6. From in or about October 2015, and continuing through in or about August 2020, in the Southern District of Ohio and elsewhere, the defendant, LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON, did knowingly execute a scheme to obtain any of the moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities, and other property owned by and under the custody and control of a financial institution, namely, Northwest Bank, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises.

The Purpose of the Scheme

7. The purpose of the scheme to defraud was for LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON to unlawfully enrich herself by stealing pension benefits that were paid to Betty Jean Ward after Ward's death.

The Manner and Means of the Scheme

8. It was part of the scheme that WILLIAMSON withdrew the pension money from the Northwest Bank account by paying bills and writing checks to herself and then depositing the checks into an account at another bank for which WILLIAMSON was a signatory. WILLIAMSON forged Ward's signature on these checks and wrote false information on the memo lines of some of the checks.

The Execution of the Scheme

9. In furtherance of the above-described scheme, and in order to achieve its purpose, and obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations and promises, the defendant, LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON, did knowingly execute the

scheme on or about the dates set forth below, by negotiating the checks identified below from Betty Jean Ward's Northwest Bank account and depositing said checks into an account at another bank for which WILLIAMSON was a signatory:

<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check #</u>
1	December 19, 2016	\$500.00	243
2	December 28, 2016	\$250.00	245
3	January 2, 2017	\$324.78	244
4	February 16, 2017	\$853.00	246
5	February 17, 2017	\$314.12	247
6	April 3, 2017	\$300.00	250
7	May 2, 2017	\$200.00	248
8	May 14, 2017	\$100.00	253
9	July 12, 2017	\$412.09	254
10	May 2, 2017	\$200.00	252
11	August 2, 2017	\$257.46	255
12	August 10, 2017	\$100.00	257
13	August 5, 2017	\$736.75	256
14	September 4, 2017	\$50.00	258
15	October 4, 2017	\$100.00	261
16	October 15, 2017	\$50.00	262
17	November 1, 2017	\$200.00	264
18	November 2, 2017	\$60.00	266
19	December 1, 2017	\$200.00	267

20	December 25, 2017	\$200.00	268
21	January 12, 2018	\$175.00	269
22	February 4, 2018	\$250.00	271
23	March 5, 2018	\$100.00	272
24	March 17, 2018	\$200.00	273
25	June 2, 2018	\$275.00	274
26	July 5, 2018	\$300.00	275
27	July 29, 2018	\$600.00	276
28	August 23, 2018	\$200.00	277
29	September 12, 2018	\$375.00	278
30	September 21, 2018	\$200.00	279
31	October 2, 2018	\$150.00	281
32	November 6, 2018	\$125.00	280
33	November 22, 2018	\$50.00	282
34	December 28, 2018	\$75.00	283
35	January 8, 2019	\$40.00	284
36	March 15, 2019	\$175.00	285
37	April 4, 2019	\$170.00	287
38	April 1, 2019	\$150.00	288
39	May 6, 2019	\$50.00	289
40	June 4, 2019	\$280.00	290
41	June 22, 2019	\$200.00	291
42	July 7, 2019	\$120.00	292

43	August 1, 2019	\$200.00	293
44	August 1, 2019	\$900.00	294
45	August 25, 2019	\$115.00	295
46	November 7, 2019	\$200.00	296
47	November 24, 2019	\$400.00	297
48	December 30, 2019	\$250.00	335
49	January 2, 2020	\$50.00	359
50	February 8, 2020	\$250.00	360
51	June 2, 2020	\$500.00	336

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344.

COUNT 52

(Theft or embezzlement from employee benefit plan)

10. Paragraphs 1 through 4 are incorporated herein.

11. From in or about October 2015, and continuing through in or about August 2020, in the Southern District of Ohio, the defendant, **LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON**, did embezzle, steal, and unlawfully and willfully abstract and convert to her own use and to the use of another, any of the moneys, funds, securities, premiums, credits, property, and other assets of any employee welfare benefit plan and employee pension benefit plan, and of any fund connected therewith, namely, pension benefits having a value of approximately \$23,425.16.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 664.

COUNT 53
(Theft of public money)

12. Paragraph 1 is incorporated herein.

13. From in or about October 2015, and continuing through in or about June 2020, in the Southern District of Ohio, the defendant, **LESLIE JEAN WILLIAMSON**, did knowingly and willfully embezzle, steal, purloin, and convert to her own use and the use of another, on a recurring basis, money belonging to the United States and a department and agency thereof in a total amount greater than \$1,000, namely, Social Security benefits having a value of approximately \$76,399.98.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641.

A TRUE BILL

S/foreperson
GRAND JURY FOREPERSON

VIPAL J. PATEL
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY


TIMOTHY LANDRY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY